1: Ingrams G-5 (1934-35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

Yafa'i circles in the Hadhramaut. Some of the Seiyids of the Hadhramaut have an enigmatical way of speaking Arabic amongst themselves.

Currency.

The currency consists of rupees and Maria Theresa dollars. The exchange value of the latter depends on the price of silver, and in November 1934, when much of the information contained in this report was collected, the dollar was practically equivalent to a rupee. For this reason the two denominations were often used indifferently. By mid-May 1935, the rate was Rs.149 to $100 in Aden and Rs.150 to $100 in Mukalla.

Small change is almost entirely British Indian, though there are a few Mukalla pice, a little Javanese money, and some Italian lire from Somaliland. Indian notes circulate fairly freely in Mukalla. The copper coins are called *besa* and the other Indian change *shauli bauli*. Generally speaking, any known money will be exchanged. In the towns of the main Wadi many ancient coins pass for small change, and there are also a number of small coins struck by the Al Kaf family. Small change is given for dollars according to their relative value with rupees.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in Mukalla are as follows:—

1 Qofla.—The weight of 4 annas.

1 Waqia.—1 English ounce.

1 Ratl.—1 English pound.

1 Frasila.—20 lb. of fish or 32 lb. of shells.

1 Gubban.—25 lb. for gum.

1 Bahar.—10¾ Aden maunds or 300 English lb. of tobacco, or 360 lb. of dates, but dates from the interior 300 lb.

1 Qosra.—180 lb. of Basra dates. Trucial Oman dates are in packages of 70-80 lb. They are of an inferior quality.

1 Ma'bar.—A basket of 30-40 lb. of *Wazif* (dried *'aid* fish).

In Shibam the pound is of 12 ounces; 28 lb. equal 1 *frasila*, and 14 *frasilas* 8 lb. equal one *bahar*.

Measures of Length.

1 Banan—1 finger's breadth.

2 Shubrs—1 Dhirra.

2 Dhirras—1 Wara.

1 Wara—1 Yard.

Measures of Capacity.

As a general rule liquids are sold by weight; there is however a small measure used for oil called a *Baura*. Such a quantity is sold for one or two pice.

Calendar.

For official and sometimes for business purposes, when dealing with Europeans, the date is expressed A.D. as well as A.H., but

1: Ingrams G-5 (1934-35)1936 MM2 Hadhramaut MM2

by men and also serve for fodder. It is sold by *ma'bar*, a basket of about 30 to 40 lb. The price for eight baskets is from one to three dollars.

Hanīt (cooked and dried *tamad* fish). About fifteen to twenty *bahars* of this are made a day in Mukalla and sold for local and up country consumption.

Safīf (dried *tarnak* and *tamad* fish). This used to be made only from the *tarnak* but now includes *tamad* as well.

Lakhm (dried shark). A great deal is prepared in Mukalla and one *frasila* costs one and a half to two and a-half dollars.

Rish (shark fins). A certain amount of these are exported to China.

The fish manufactories have been removed from the town of Mukalla, a sanitary measure for which credit is due to Sultan 'Umar. The drying-grounds and godowns for *wazīf* are situated beyond Therb, the camel park, outside the western gate. Here too there are old fish-oil tanks. The drying of fish for human consumption takes place at Al Khalf, east of the town, and here large godowns for storage and export are in process of completion. Dried fish forms a staple article of diet of the population. It is also a valuable manure and a widely-used fodder for animals. The extent of this coastal industry may be judged by the millions of gulls lining the seashore and the ever-pervading smell in the coastal towns.

Mr. Heald, referring to the fish-curing industry, writes " Along the coast in the various villages, a primitive fish-curing industry was carried on for sale in the interior, which consisted merely of digging a hole about one yard deep and half a yard broad, lined with stone; in this, wood was burnt and then the large-sized fish were placed in the hot ashes and covered over and left for 24 hours, afterwards taken out and sent up to the interior for sale. I was informed that the cured fish would keep for a considerable length of time, but, as a word of warning to intending travellers in this country, I strongly advise them not to allow any of their luggage especially bedding to be put on the same camel carrying the fish, as the smell was abominable and tainted everything it came into contact with. The Beduins on the journey fed their camels with the small sun dried fish and also partook of the same themselves without any attempt at cooking."

Visit of Agricultural and Geological Experts in 1919.

Agricultural Report.

At the request of the Sultan, then Sir Ghalib bin 'Awadh, K.C.I.E., experts were obtained from Egypt to examine and report on the agricultural and mineral possibilities of certain parts of his territory

6:Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

631 361 UPPER YAFA'I CONFEDERATION: Sultan Muhammad bin Salih, *Capital*: Mahjaba.
Mausatta, Sheikh Ahmed Bubaker 'Ali 'Askar and Sheikh Husein Salih Musin 'Askar. *Capital*: Al Qudma.
Dhubi, Sheikh 'Abdurahman bin Salih (under age). Regent: Sheikh Salih Salim. *Capital*: Dhi Sura.
Maflahi, Sheikh Qasim 'Abdurahman. *Capital*: Al Jurba.
Hadrami, Sheikh Muhammad Muhsin Ghalib. *Capital*: Ash Shibr.
SHAIB: Sheikh Ahmed Mana As Saqladi. *Capital*: Awabil.
QUTELIBI: Sheikh Hassan 'Ali. *Capital*: Ath Thumeir.
ALAWI: Sheikh Salih Sayil. *Capital*: Al Qash'a.
AQRABI: Sheikh Muhammad Fadhl ba 'Abdullah. *Capital*: Bir Ahmed.
AUDHALI: Sultan Salih bin Husein. *Capital*: Lodar.
UPPER 'AULAQI: Sultan 'Awadh bin Salih bin Abdullah. *Capital*: Nisab. Sheikh Muhsin bin Farid. *Capital*: As-Said.
LOWER 'AULAQI: Sultan Nasir bin Aidrus bin Ali bin 'Abdullah (under age). Regent: Sultan Ahmed (Sheikh) bin Ali. *Capital*: Ahwar.
BEIHAN: Amir Salih bin Husein. Regent: Sharif Husein bin Ahmed. *Capital*: Beihan Qasb.
SUBEIHI: Sheikh Muhammad 'Ali Ba Salih, Sheikh Muhammad bin 'Ali of the Barhimi and Sheikh Abdullah ba Sa'id of the Atifi.

Chapter 13: Weights and Measures

804 These vary considerably from place to place, but the tendency of late has been towards standardisation. Generally speaking, liquids are weighed and grain is measured. The measures of weight most used are the pound, the frasila = 28 lb. and the khandi = 24 frasilas. The keila, a cubic measure for grain, varies from place to place, but the one mostly used is equivalent to about 40 lb. of grain. The qadah = 200 lb. and the qasa = 2½ lb. are also in use. Linear measurement is mostly in qamas, one equalling 5 feet 6 inches approximately, or else the dra = 1½ feet approximately.

Areas are generally quoted in dhumd or fadan, which is equivalent to the area ploughable by a yoke of oxen in a working day of about eight hours. It is roughly an acre or 4,840 square yards.

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7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

631 ALAWI : Sheikh Salih Sayil. *Capital:* Al Qash'a.
622 AQRABI : Sheikh Muhammad Fadhl Ba Abdullah. *Capital:* Bir Ahmed.
AUDHALI : Sultan Salih bin Husein. *Capital:* Lodar.
UPPER 'AULAQI : Sultan Awadh bin Salih bin Abdullah. *Capital:* Nisab. Sheikh Muhsin bin Farid. *Capital:* As-Said.
LOWER 'AULAQI : Sultan Nasir bin Aidrus bin Ali bin 'Abdullah (under age). Regent : Sultan Ahmed (Sheikh) bin Ali. *Capital:* Ahwar.
BEIHAN : Amir Salih bin Husein. Regent : Sharif Husein bin Ahmed, O.B.E. *Capital:* Beihan Qasb.
SUBEIHI : Sheikh Muhammad Ali Ba Salih, Sheikh Muhammad bin Ali of the Barhimi and Sheikh Abdullah Ba Sa'id of the Atifi.

EASTERN ADEN PROTECTORATE

[643] QU'AITI : His Highness Sultan Sir Salih bin Ghalib al Qu'aiti, K.C.M.G., Sultan of Shihr and Mukalla.
KATHIRI : Sultan Husein Ali bin Mansoor Al Kathiri.
BALIHAF : Sultan Ali bin Mohsin bin Saleh Al Wahidi.
BIR ALI : Sultan Nasir bin Yaleb al Wahidi.
HAURA : Sheikh Awadh bin Saleh Ba Shatid.
IRQA : Sheikh Ahmed bin Abdullah bin Abdullah bin Awad Ba Das.

Chapter 13 : Weights and Measures

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Areas are generally quoted in dhumd or fadan, which is equivalent to the area ploughable by a yoke of oxen in a working day of about eight hours. It is roughly an acre or 4,840 yards.

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8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

MAUSATTA	: Sheikh Ahmad Bubakr 'Ali 'Askar and Sheikh Hussein Salih Muhsin 'Askar. Capital: Al Qudma.
DHUBI	: Sheikh 'Abdulrahman bin Salih (under age). Regent: Sheikh Salih Salim. Capital : Dhi Sura.
MAFLAHI	: Sheikh Qasim 'Abdulrahman. Capital : Al Juba.
HADRAMI	: Sheikh Muhammad Muhsin Ghalib. Capital : Al Shibr.
SHAIB	: Vacant. Capital : Awabil.
QUTEIBI	: Sheikh Hasan 'Ali. Capital : Al Thumeir.
'ALAWI	: Sheikh Salih Sayid. Capital : Al Qash'a.
'AQRABI	: Sheikh Muhammad Fadhl Ba 'Abdulla. Capital : Bir Ahmad.
'AUDHALI	: Sultan Salih bin Hussein. Capital : Lodar.
UPPER 'AULAQI	: Sultan 'Awadh bin Salih bin 'Abdullah. Capital : Nisab. Sheikh Muhsin bin Farid. Capital: Al Said.
LOWER 'AULAQI	: Sultan Nasir bin 'Aidrus bin Ali bin 'Abdullah (under age). Regent : Sultan Ahmed (Sheikh) bin Ali. Capital : Ahwar.
BEIHAN	: Amir Salih bin Hussein. Capital : Beihan Qasb.

EASTERN PROTECTORATE

QU'AITI	: His Highness Sultan Sir Salih bin Ghalib Al Qu'aiti, K.C.M.G., Sultan of Shihr and Mukalla. Capital: Mukalla.
KATHIRI	: Sultan Hussein bin 'Ali bin Mansur Al Kathiri. Capital : Sai'un.
MAHRA (Qishn and Socotra)	: Successor to Sultan 'Ahmed bin 'Abdulla bin 'Isa bin 'Afrar not yet elected. Capital : Hadibu (Socotra).
BALHAF	: Sultan Nasir bin 'Abdullah Al Wahidi. Capital : Azzan.
BIR 'ALI	: Sultan 'Alawi bin Muhsin Al Wahidi. Capital : Bir 'Ali.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

These vary considerably from place to place, but the tendency of late has been towards standardisation. Generally speaking, liquids are weighed and grain is measured. The measures of weights most used are the pound, the frasila = 28 lb. and the khandi = 24 frasilas. The keila, a cubic measure for grain, varies from place to place, but the one mostly used is equivalent to about 50 lb. of grain. The qadah = 200 lb. and the qasa = 2½ lb. are also in use. Linear measurement is mostly in qamas, one equalling 5 feet 6 inches approximately, or else the dra = 1½ feet approximately.

Areas are generally quoted in dhund or fadan, which is equivalent to the area ploughable by a yoke of oxen in a working day of about eight hours. It is roughly an acre or 4,840 square yards.

30: Gt. Britain G-5 (ca. 1918) 1920 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Hadhramaut MM21

Weights and Measures

§ 104 The following are in use, according to Hunter :

1 Oqīyah	= 1 ounce (avoirdupois).
16 Oqīyah	= 1 Rotl.
30¾ Rotl	= 1 Farāsilah (used for coffee only).
33 Rotl	= 1 Farāsilah of the Jebel (Interior).
28 Rotl	= 1 Farāsilah (used for skins, sugar, rice).

For larger weights the following are used :

1 Bahār	= 3 cwt. (avoirdupois).
1 Hakīsah	= 3½ cwt.
1 Hamal (heml) of dates . .	= 4 bags (or Kūsarah) = 5 cwt.
1 Hamal (of other articles) by land	= 6 to 7 cwt.
1 Hamal (of other articles) by sea	= 14 to 15 cwt.
1 Candy (of grain) . . .	= 6 cwt.
1 Candy (of firewood) . .	= 8 cwt.
1 Maund	= 40 seers (Indian weights).

Pounds, quarters, hundredweights, and tons of the English standard are also in use in the district.

Measures of Capacity :

1 Thuman or payali . .	= 5¼ lb. avoirdupois = 4 Bombay seers.
3 Thuman or payali . .	= 1 Keilah = 15¾ lb. avoirdupois.
1 Kasīmah or keilah .	= 3 lb. = 2 quarts.
3 Kasīmah or keilah .	= 1 Imperial gallon.
1 Qāsa	= 5 Rotl.
16 Qāsa	= 1 Qāda.

Measures of Length :

1 Dhrā' . . .	= ± ½ yard.
1 Thobe . . .	= 16 Dhrā'.

Notes. The *oqīyah*, a standard weight, is equal to very nearly an ounce (or one silver German crown), and is used in weighing small quantities, and fractional parts of a rotl.

The *rotl* is used for valuable articles, such as feathers, saffron, tortoise-shell, raw silk, cotton twist, and yarns ; also grey cotton goods are sold and purchased by this weight.

30: Gt. Britain G-5 (ca. 1918) 1920 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Hadhramaut MM21

The *farāsilah*. There are three kinds, all used in different places; by it gums, coffee, wax, honey, ivory, shells, and tallow are weighed. There does not appear to have ever been an original standard farāsilah; the recent practice was to fix a stone standard or farāsilah for each transaction; gradually, however, the farāsilah assumed a fixed weight in different places: 33 rotl in the interior; 32½ at Berbera; 35 at Zeila or Harrar. 804

The *bahār*. There are three kinds, varying in size according to the article to be weighed: for cotton, 1 bahār = 3½ cwt.; for incense and gum, 1 bahār = 3 cwt.; for tobacco, 1 bahār = 2½ cwt. It is used mainly by the inhabitants of Shiheir and Makalla.

The *hakīsah*. Cotton only is sold by this weight to the Arabs of the interior.

The *hamal* or *heml* (load). Dates and *jowari* are sold by this weight, which varies with the article weighed, and the manner of import or export (see table above).

The *candy*, an Indian weight, is used at Aden in weighing grain and pulse, cotton from India, and firewood.

The *thuman* or *payali* is used in selling small quantities of grain.

The *keilah* or *kasīmah*. The former is used for measuring grain, pulse, and salt, and the latter for measuring liquids, such as oil, *ghi*, and vinegar. The weight of each varies according to the article weighed—in the case of the *keilah* from 14 lb. 12½ oz. to 18 lb. 11½ oz., and in the case of the *kasīmah* from 3 lb. to 3 lb. 5 oz.

The *qāsa* and *qāda* are also used in measuring grain.

The *dhrā'*. The Arabs use this lineal measure for lengths of cotton piece-goods, &c., of different manufacture. It is supposed to be equal to the distance from the tip of the forefinger to the elbow.

GOVERNMENT

For administrative purposes Aden Settlement forms part of British India and is under the control of the Governor of Bombay in Council. It is administered by a Political Resident, who is also the General Officer Commanding the Aden Brigade, with the assistance of four officers of the Bombay Political Department, one military officer in charge of Perim, one officer of the Public Works Department, as chairman, one officer of the Aden Settlement and Port Trust, and one officer of the Bombay Provincial Police Department. The Resident exercises political influence over the whole tract of country extending, on the north and west, to the Anglo-Turkish frontier of Yemen and extending to and including the Hadhramaut on the east. The Resident has jurisdiction as a judge of the Vice- 636

30: Gt. Britain G-5 (ca. 1918) 1920 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Hadhramaut MM2

Currency

436 The coins in use, according to Van den Berg, are :

Copper.	Rub' Khamsīyah	= ±0·005 florin.
„	Khamsīyah	= ±0·02 „
Silver.	Haraf	= 8 Khamsīyah.
„	Oqīyah	= 2 Haraf.
„	Qarsh	= 7½ Oqīyah.
Gold.	None.	

There is also a coin, current in some districts, called Buqshah, worth ½ Khamsīyah ; and a copper coin, current only at Shiheir, the Diwani, worth ⅛ Khamsīyah.

The five-franc piece, in place of the Qarsh, is popularly current all over the Hadhramaut, and the 10-cent pieces of the Dutch East Indies are largely in use.

435 Money has a high purchasing power in the Hadhramaut, or, in other words, everything of native production is incredibly cheap ; 436 the only dear articles are horses and arms. There are no great fortunes in the Hadhramaut, with the exception of that of the Jemadar of Shiheir ; his resources may be placed at several millions of florins, invested mostly, however, in India. The Sultan of Seyyūn possesses a fortune of some hundreds of thousands, mainly property in the country, and there are some few individuals with fortunes nearing 100,000 florins. Amongst the Bedouins money is rare.

Weights and Measures

804 The weights are as follows :

Qaflah	= ±	2½ grammes.
Oqīyah	=	10 Qaflah.
Rotl	=	12 Oqīyah (16 Oqīyah at Makalla and Shiheir).
Raf'ah	=	12 Rotl.
Farāsilah	=	2 Raf'ah.
Bahār	=	12½ Farāsilah.
Jābir	=	2 Bahār.

The measures of length are :

Shibr	= ±	16 centimetres.
Dhrā'	=	3 Shibr.
Sāqit	=	5 Dhrā'.
Farsakh	=	80 Sāqit.

30: Gt. Britain G-5 (ca. 1918) 1920 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Hadhramaut MM2

Distances are reckoned by Khatwah (an hour's march, on the level, over ordinary ground, of about 3½ miles) and by Marhālah (a day's march of from 8 to 9 hours). 804

The measures of capacity are:

Shatr	= ±	½ litre.
Musra or Mudd	=	2 Shatr.
Rabā'i	=	1½ Mudd (*plu.* Musra).
Sā'	=	4 Rabā'i.
Qahāwil	=	2 Sā'.

The Qahāwil is not in use at Makalla and Shiheir, where another measure, the Mikyāl = 8 Qurs or Musra (Mudd).

Government

The government of the Hadhramaut is in the hands of a number of tribal chiefs. The most powerful clan or tribe, at present, is the *Ka'aiti* (estimated pop. 50,000), a branch of the Yāfa' tribe, whose territory lies farther west. Originally invited by the Seyyids to protect the settled districts from the attacks of marauding tribes, they have established themselves as practically the rulers of the country, and now control the coast district with the ports of Shiheir and Makalla, as well as the towns Hajarein, Haurah, Qatan, and Shibām in the interior. The founder of this family accumulated great wealth and rose to the highest position in the service of the Nizam of Haidarabad, as 'Jemadar', or commander of an Arab levy composed of his tribesmen, numbers of whom still go to the East and elsewhere to seek their fortune. His descendant took the title of Sultan of the Ka'aiti in 1902. The *Kathīri* tribe was formerly the most powerful; they now occupy the greater part of the Central Hadhramaut, Seyyūn, Terīm, and Ghurfah being their chief strongholds. These two tribes are extremely hostile to each other. The paramount chiefs of both have been in political relations with the British Government, through the Resident at Aden, but the Kathīri have less intercourse with us than the Ka'aiti and, of late, have broken off relations. 631 622 619

The Hadhramaut tribal chiefs nominally also recognize the supremacy of the Sublime Porte and profess to be its protégés, but no part of the country has ever been really incorporated in the Ottoman Empire, nor has the Porte ever imposed taxes, sent troops or officials, or exercised any form of sovereignty. In so doing it would doubtless meet with the most obstinate resistance; on the other hand, the Turks have never sought the aid of the Hadhramaut chiefs, though the Imam of Yemen has made overtures to them latterly. 648